

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 3-11 are pending.

Claims 3-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Usui et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201123) in view of Yoshinaga et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0145888).

Section 103 Rejection: Elimination of U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201123

U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201123 qualifies as prior art only under Section 102(e).

The subject matter disclosed in U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201123 and the claimed invention were, at the times of the claimed invention, subject to assignment to the assignee of the instant application. Accordingly, U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201123 is subject to 35 U.S.C. Section 103(c) and thus cannot be used to preclude patentability under Section 103.

The Section 103 rejection of the pending claims is believed to be overcome.

Amended Claims

The claims as previously presented are believed to be allowable over the prior art, in view of Section 103(c). Notwithstanding the applicability of Section 103(c), however, Applicant amends the claims to further clarify the claimed invention.

In particular, claims 3 and 8 have been amended to further qualify “preset current value” by reciting “preset current value for determining whether said load is light or not.” An example is disclosed at ¶[0113] in the application as published, namely U.S. Pub. No. 2006/0098462. No new matter has been added.

Applicant submits that, as amended, claims 3 and 8 more clearly set forth the idea that upon a decrease in load and a subsequent decrease in output current, the capacitor is discharged and after a lapse of a predetermined time, the capacitor is recharged.

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Amdt. dated February 4, 2010
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2838

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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